CANADIAN ART LIBRARIES

newsletter

vol. 17 no.4 december 1993

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CANADIAN ART LIBRARIES (CARLIS NEWSLETTER)
VOL. 17 NO.4 DECEMBER 1993

EDITOR: MELVA J. DWYER

ISSN 0702-7249

EDITORIAL

I trust that everyone had a lovely Christmas and that 1994 will be both a prosperous and happy year.

This being the fourth issue of the year, I am pleased that I have managed to maintain the proposed schedule. I am beginning, however, to question the value of the Newsletter. I shall continue for at least one more year. By that time, perhaps there will be something more relevlant appear on the horizon with all the major changes taking place today in the elctronic world.

I have decided, with regret, not to attend ARLIS/NA this February. I shall have to rely on some of you to send me reports of meetings and activities. Please don't forget.

Many thanks to those who have sent me material for this issue. It is always appreciated. Deadlines for 1994 are: March 10th; June 11th; September 10th; December 10th.

Melva J. Dwyer, Editor
2976 McBride Avenue
Surrey, B.C. V4A 3G6
Telephone: 604-535-3041l

CANADIAN ART INFORMATION PROFESSIONS
STRATEGIC PLANNING TASKFORCE
NOVEMBER 4-5, 1993
OTTAWA

Murray Waddington assembled a dedicated (read"desperate"), far-sighted (read "frustrated"), eager (read "information challenged") group in Ottawa to discuss the perennial "where do we go from here"? The composition of the group itself was a bit of a departure from our usual gatherin of librarians. We represented many sizes and types of parent institutions. We all seem to have in common a need for information - not necessarily more information, but information more specific and more easily available. We also have the confidence that we and our colleagues possess the skills and expertise to make an impact on the kinds of resources that are available to us all.

All of the participants were eager to be a part of these discussions. We all seem to be facing, in various degrees, a real need for direction in a world where information is constantly expanding, resources are shrinking and our reliance on one another is not only a possiblity, but a necessity.

The task set forth was to formulate a strategic plan for art information professionals in Canada. The questions posed by this group remain: 1. Is this broad group of 'art information professionals' viable? 2. should it be formalized into a new society or a branch of an existing society? 3. what would this group do it if were formalized?

Jane Beaumont acted as facilitator and guided the group through very useful and thought provoking discussions. She also summed things up so that it looked as though we were extremely well-organized in thought and word.

The members have now taken on assignments to report back to Murray in mid-December. The Task Force will meet again at the ARLIS meeting in Providence, where a draft document will be presented to the Canadian delegates.

This is an exciting initiative to be involved in. There is a great

potential here to take advantage of the strengths of this emerging body, and to help create, in a unified Canadian context, the kinds of resources and accesses that we deserve.

Cheryl Siegel, Librarian, Vancouver Art Gallery

BOOK REVIEW

Noble, Terry. The Sculpture of Elek Imredy. Vancouver: The Author, 1993. 80 p. many illus. $20.00 plus GST and post. (Terry Noble, 802-1875 Robson St., Vancouver, B.C. V6G 1E5)

A book on Canadian sculpture is a rarety, therfore, the biography of one of Canada's leading sculptors is welcome. Elek Imredy was born in Budapest, Hungary and left in 1956 to come to Canada shortly after. He has made Vancouver his home ever since.

Terry Noble, a personal friend of the artist, has produced a work of merit. He was determined that the quality of paper and reproduction would do justice to the works being illustrated. In consquence, the black and white reproductions are sharp, with the sculptural details showing to advantage. Each work is identified by title, size, material and owner.

There is an introductory section in which the artist talks of his life and some of the works are given more detailed description than appears with the reproduction. These occupy 61 pages of the total of 80. The works are arranged chronologically ending with a listing of the commissions undertaken by the artist.

The coloured, stiff card cover reproduces Imredy's best known work, The Girl in the Wet Suit, which sits on a rock on the beach in Stanley Park overlooking the entrance to Vancouver's harbour.

I recommend this book to all Canadian Fine Arts libraries and any others who are building a collection of Canadian materials.

ARTISTS IN CANADA DATABASE UPDATE

The National Gallery of Canada Library and the Canadian Heritage Information Network have been reviewing the Artists in Canada Database in response to requests made by the database users and contributors. This review process, which began in early 1993, has made it clear that changes are needed to the existing database.

Two decisions which will enhance the database are: 1. to develop the database as an authority list for artists names in addition to its role as a union list and a finding aid, and 2. to dencentralize the inputting of records from the NGC Library to the contributing institutions. The NGC will maintain editorial control of the format and content of the database. As well, a new data dictionary has been drafted and will be sent to an editorial board, whose members represent institutions across Canada, to be appoved. Once the data dictionary has been approved more changes can be made to the database.

Although the project is in its early stages users may notice small changes to the existing database in the weeks and months to come. At present the NGC Libary has begun editing records it contributed to make them more authoritative. Other contributors will be asked to edit their records following the standards set in the data dictionary.

CHIN and the National Gallery of Canada feel the enhancements to be made to the database will be appreciated by both users and contributors. We well keep users informed of the status of the project, but in the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns please contact Peter Trepanier at the National Gallery of Canada Library or Valerie Lenethen at CHIN.

Peter Trepanier, Head, Special Collections, Library, National Gallery of Canada. (613)-990-0588 (voice); (613)990-9818 (fax)
Valerie Lenethen, Museum Consultant, CHIN, (613) 992-3333 (voice; (613) 952-2318 (fax).

ARLIS/ONTARIO MEETING
ART GALLERY OF HAMILTON, NOVEMBER 24, 1993

Twenty-four ARLIS/Ontario members gathered at the Art Gallery of Hamilton for a full day's programme. The day was divided into a session on artists' papers. lunch, tour of the exhibition The Crisis of Abstaction in Canada: the 1950s and the chapter business meeting.

ARTISTS'PAPERS

LARRY PFAFF, chair of the chapter, introduced the sesssion by talking about the collections of artists' papers at the Art Gallery of Ontario, starting with the transfer in 1975 of the J.E.H. MacDonald collection from the AGO to the National Archives. The AGO now has several hundred running feet of papers. Major exhibitions of Canadian artists in the 1940s and 50s were researched in the AGO archives. The archives also contains some "made up" collections of like materials, i.e. over 1000 portrait photographs of Canadian artists.

LINDA MORITA described archival collections at the McMichael Canadian Collectio, pointing out these began at the same time as the art collelctions with the systematic gathering of historical materials cnnected with the artists. Researchers will find materials related to the Group of Seven and their friends. There is also material on W.J. Wood, Thoreau MacDonald and Inuit art. Finding aids are available for most collections.

KAREN MCKENZIE focused on collections at the Art Gallery of Ontario and described the process of acquiring, transferring, organizing and describing the Michael Snow Fonds acquired in 1992 for the prupose of applying to the Cultural Property Review Board for full ceertification. The entire process was extremely time consuming for the staff involved ands often frustrating.

MICHELE SAWCHUK , University of Waterloo, talked about two collections of artists' papers in her library: illustrator Virgil Burnett and Tony Urquart. An important issue that occurs with collections of drawings is how to evaluate them.

CINDY CAMPBELL described the archival collections at the National Gallery, Ottawa as having a history of being acquired and organized in ways far removed from usual archival principles. There is no collections policy and there are no finding aids. Apart from important correspondence in curatorial files,

the main artists' papers are Jack Humphrey, Homer Watson, Lilias Torrence Newton and A.Y.Jackson. Currently the library is applying RAD descriptions to archival collections and will be putting them on the library OPAC and later RLIN, and in future perhaps INTERNET and CHIN.

HELEN HADDEN discussed artists' papers at the Art Gallery of Hamilton and showed boxes and files of materials and notebooks from the W. Blair Bruce and Hortense Gordon collections. Other artists who are represented by papers are Robert Pilot, Thomas Reid MacDonald and Charles Comfort.
Several issues were raised such as copyright, restrictions on use, and decision making as to where certain materials belong.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Larry Pfaff chaired the meeting. Michele Sawchuk will chair a newsletter committee with Jill Patrick and Linda Morita. New officers will be elected at the spring meeting. Mary Williamson spoke about the Inventory to Canadian Art and Architecture Archives project and the chapter directory. A committee: Donald Rance, Lesley Bell and Jim Forrester was established to investigate electronic communications and access to networks. A text will be prepared to assist librarians, in small institutions, in discussion with their superiors, on the importance of electronic access to resources.

Mary Williamson,recorder

SOME MEETINS TO NOTE

ARLIS/NA	Providence, RI	February 10-17, 1994
	Montréal	March 11-19, 1995
	Miami	1996
	Cincinnati	1997
College Art	New York	February 16-19, 1994
	San Antonio	January 26-28, 1995
	Boston	1996
IFLA	Havana, Cuba	August 21-28, 1994
	Istanbul, Turkey	August 20-26, 1995
	Beijing, China	August 25-31, 1996
SAH	Philadelphia	April 27-May 1, 1994
Visual Resources	New York	February 16-19, 1994

ARTEXTE ARTEXTE ARTEXTE ARTEXTE ARTEXTE

Artexte has moved in order to offer higher quality services, better conditions for research and to provide a closer contact with its various clients, ARTEXTE INFORMATION CENTRE has moved to two new locations, both inaugurated in September 1993.

The DOCUMENTATION CENTRE, DISTRIBUTION SERVICE and ARTEXTE EDITIONS have moved in the Balfour Building (where ARTEXTE has been for the last eleven years). The new address is:

ARTEXTE INFORMATION CENTRE
3575, St-Laurent Blvd., suite 103
Montréal, Québec H2X 2T7
Tel: (514) 845-2759
Fax: (514) 845-4345
Opening hours: Tuesday-Saturday, noon-5:30,
and by appointment

The bookstore on St-Laurent has been closed. The new ARTEXTE BOOKSTORE is now located inside the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, in an autonomous space off the rotunda and adjacent to the museum's main entrance. The address is:

ARTEXTE BOOKSTORE
at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal
185, Ste-Catherine West
Montréal, Québec H2X 1Z8
Tel: (514) 847-6903
Fax: (514) 847-6909
Opening hours: Tuesday-Sunday, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m
Wednesday, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

The members of staff look forward to your visit when in Montréal.

PEOPLE NEWS

Anne Meredith Barry, Tors Cove, Nfld. has donated her print, Sky and Star Fish to the "Artists for Kids" Trust program, North Vancouver. Prints are available for $700. Other Canadian artists support the project.

Artist David Blackwood has contributed his print The Wreck of the Nickerson to the "Artists for Kids" Trust. The edition of 50 is available at $1800.

Montréal sculptor Dominique Blain has been chosen to execute a work of art in memory of Barbara Frum. It will be at the CBC Toronto centre.

garth Drabinsky hopes to build a theatre in Vancouver which would be suitable for touring companies such as Cats, Phantom of the Opera etc.

Michael Fortune, furniture designer, was awarded the Prix Saidye Bronfman for 1993. It is the first time that the award has been made to an industrial designer.

Carol Laing, artist and lecturer at the Ontario College of Art, gave two lectures on Contemporary art at the Burnaby Art Gallery in November.

A sculpture by Edmonton artist Roy Leadbeater was sent to a junk yard after being removed from its original site in front of College Plaza, Edmonton. Leadbeater has rescued it.

Anne-Marie Legaré Université de Montréal has been awarded the Prix d'excellence universitaire from the Académie Montréalais for her thesis: L'Iconographie au service de la mémoire: L'oeuvre du maître d'Antoine Rolin, miniaturiste en Hainault au XVe siècle.

Susan Point, Coast Salish artist, has created a series of glass, copper and wood etchings for the Vancouver International Airport.

Toronto architect Peter Smith received the Drama Bench Award for his work in theatre design. His latest work is the Princess of Wales Theatre, Toronto.

Frances Tyrrell, Oakville illustrator, has become known for her Christmas card and children's book illustrations.

Armand Vaillancourt, sculptor, has been awarded the Prix Paul-Emile Borduas for the visual arts.

NECROLOGY

BARBER, ROBERT MICHAEL 1953-December 6, 1993, died at Toronto. He was a teacher and an artist.

BENJAMIN, GEORGE, photographer, 1918-November 3, 1993, died in Toronto. He received an honorary degree from York University in 1954 for his photographic achievments.

CALVERT, ROBERT GORDON, architect, 1919-Novewmber 22, 1993, died at Kingston. He was the architect for the restoration of Louisbourg, 1963-68 and also the Heritage Architect for Public Works Canada.

CHAPMAN, EVADNA, artist, 1934-November 1, 1993, died in Vancouver.

CRAWFORD, ALAN BIRNIE, architect, 1914-November 7, 1993, died at North Clarkson, Ontario.

DAWE, HELEN, retired Fine Arts professor, University of Guelph, died November 3, 1993 at Ottawa in her 68th year.

KELLWAY, JAMES GARRETT, 1924-November 4, 1993, died at Kingston. He was a retired teacher and artist.

MORRISON, CARL, 1943-December 20, 1993, died at Ottawa. He was director of Operations at the National Arts Centre for the last 20 years.

OSMOND, RON died October 30, 1993 at Mississauga. He was a Graphic Design instructor at Sheridan College

REICH, ANNA POLGAR died September 22, 1993. Reich retired from Concordia University in 1989 where she was the founding member of the Faculty of Fine Arts Slide Library. She had worked at Concordia for 32 years. A memorial fund in the Visual Arts has been established.

SCOTT, MARIAN (Née Dale) painter, 1906-November 27, 1993, died in Montréal. Her best known work is that of the 1930s and 40s.

VICKERS, GEORGE STEPHEN, 1913-November 3, 1993, died in Toronto. Vickers was Emeritus Professor of Fine Arts, University of Toronto.

NEWS NOTES

Information on Female Architects in Canada between 1920-1992, including those who left the profession, is being sought for a study. Contact: Dr. Annmarie Adams, McGill School of Architecture. 514-398-6706.

ARLIS/UK & Ireland will be celebrating its 25th anniversary conference, 7-10 April, 1994. The subject: local, national and international cooperation. At least two Canadian librarians are taking part in the programme: Murray Waddington and Peter Trepanier.Anyone able to attend should contact: Jacky Camrorax, London College of Printing & Distributive Trades, Dept. of Learning Resources, Elephant & Castle, London SE1 6SB. Tel.: 071-735-8484; Fax: 071-582-5700.

Arte Firenze raised $45,000 to support a programme offered thirty students at the Ontario College of Art to study for ten months in Florence. The students pay their own tuition, airfare and accomodation.

The Association of Architecture School Librarians is meeting in conjunction with the Collegiate Schools of Architecture in Montréal, March 12-15, 1994.

Good news! Ballenford Books, Toronto, which closed in October has reopened, Novmeber 13th. A consortium of architects and others are the new owners. Susan Ford, the previous owner operator, will run The New Ballenford Books.

Burnaby Arts Centre has planned a $9.2 million expansion. Its fundraising has been very successful.

Guelph Little Theatre, an historic landmark, was severely damaged by fire November 16, 1993.

IF current plans develop, The National Portrait Gallery Centre will be housed in the West Memorial Building after completion of the Archives Building in 1996.

The North York Performing Arts Centre opened October 16, 1993.
Eb Zeidler was the architect for the complex. Glen Cumming is the director of the Art Gallery.

The Ontario Arts Council Foundation has received a major gift from Paul de Hueck and the estate of Norman Walford. Walford was the executive director of the OAC from 1989-1992. Biennial awards for music and photography will be established.

The 1993/94 Student Handbook of the Ontario College of Art has a three page article on the library. Jill Patrick, head Librarian, stresses the lack of space and need for a larger budget to serve students and faculty adequately.

The Ottawa Police Headquarters Building, completed in 1957, designed by Toronto architect Peter Dickinson, is being threatened with demolition. It is a fine example of the International Style of Architecture.

Simon Fraser University Museum, Burnaby, recently purchased a sandstone figurine bowl more than 2500 years old for $45,000. Provincial and Federal grants assisted in the purchase to keep it in Canada.

In honour of the 10th anniversary of the Vancouver Art Gallery's relocation to the old courthous, Director J. Brooks Joyner announced in November that free life-time admission passes are being offered to all Canadian artists represented in the gallery's permanent collection.

The referendum held in Vancouver to support the Vancouver Arts Endowment Fund for $2,000,000 failed to receive a majority vote in the November elections.

The Whyte Foundation, Banff, is building a mixed-use residential and commercial building to provide income for the recently expanded Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies.

PERIODICAL ARTICLES

BUCHANAN, DONALD. Roundabout in the Swing: Milne - an Artist in a Forest Hut, from The Lethbridge Herald, November 2, 1934. Artichoke 5:2(Summer 1993):12-13.

DAFOE, CHRISTOPHER. Going Public, Vancouver Style. Globe & Mail October30(1993):E2. (public art in Vancouver)

FALCIONI, RON. The Magician in Freefall, Surrealist Ted Kingan's Reveries within the Non-physical space of the Mind. North Shore News November 3(1993):22,34. (Ted Kingan, North Vancouver artist)

FETHERLING, Douglas. Portrait of a Lady. Western Living December(1993):66-68,70,72,112-13. (Myfanwy Pavelic)

FREEDMAN, ADELE. Modern Space, Classical Form. Globe & Mail October 23(1993):C5. (Richmond Hill public library)

FULFORD, ROBERT. The Trouble with Emily. Canadian Art 10:4(19930:32-39. (Emily Carr)

GOGARTY, AMY. Art in the March, Celebrating Our Different Voices. Artichoke 5:2((Summer'93):32-39. (International Woman's Day Artists' march)

GRANDE, JOHN K. Back to Bricks. Canadian Forum October(1993):20-23. (Canadian art writing)

HOGUE, TOM. Museums Sending Art to the Auction Block. Financial Post December 4(1993):S9.

KILMARTIN, KERRY. Blackbridge Gives Kiss & Tell a Voice, an Interview with Persimmon Blackbridge. Artichoke 5:2(Summer):22-26.

MCCULLOCK, IAN. Pratfalls on the Paths of Glory. The Beaver 73:6(1993/94):14-19. (George Townshend, cartoonist with General Wolfe) (cartoons in Wolfiana Collection, McCord Museum)

MAYS, JOHN BENTELY. Portrait of the Artist as a Long-distance Runner. Globe & Mail November 4,(1993):A13. (William Perehudoff)

----- and Kate Taylor. Canadian Art from A to Z. Globe & Mail October 30(1993):E1,E3. (interesting)

MOHR, MERILYN SIMONDS. The McMichael National Treasure. Reader's Digest December(1993):14-48.

NEEL, DAVID. The Rebirth of the Long-Distance Paddlers. Beautiful British Columbia 35:4(1993):6-13. (Kwagiutl artist)

TANT, LISA. Haida Couture. BC Woman 8:12(1993):20-21,23. (Dorothy Grant's Haida fashion designs)

TAYLOR, KATE. Capturing the Sense of Loss Spelled AIDS. Globe & Mail Nov. 27(1993):C5. (work of Regan Morris and Stephen Andrews)

-----. Snuggling Up to the Consumer World. Globe & Mail Nov.24(1993):A14. (Art Gallery of Windsor)

WHITE, DANIELLE. Remembrance, Canadian War Artist Orville Fisher. Boardwalk Winter(1993):6-8. (Boardwalk is published by the White Rock & District Community Arts Council, B.C.)

WARD, ALAN. Artropolis 93 Is Up on the Issues. Vancouver Sun October 30(1993):D6.

EXHIBITIONS

Artropolis 93, Vancouver, October 22-November. Held in Woodward's Department store which was empty as a result of bankruptcy. The focus was public art and art about public issues.

Bobak, Molly Lamb. Mollie Lamb Bobak: A Retrospective. Regina: MacKenzie Art Gallery, November19,1993-February 20,1994. Catalogue available.

Burnaby Art Gallery. The Furlan Collection of Contemporary Canadian Prints I. The Canadian Printshop & Atelier, November 9,1993-January 3,1994; Furland Collection II. Subject and Style, January 8-February 20, 1994.

Equinox Gallery, Vancouver. Mary Pratt - New Paintings, December 1-23, 1993. (Pratt returns to oil painting)

Glenbow Museum. New Alberta Art. Second Decade, October 2, 1993-January 9, 1994.

Hartman, John. Painting the Bay, Recent Work by John Hartman, October 3,1993-January 16,1994. Kleinberg: McMichael Canadian Art Collection.

National Library of Canada, Ottawa. North: Landscape of the Imagination, October 27,1993-March 27, 1994. A 16 minute closed caption video complements the exhibition. $19.95 per copy plus GST and $3.50 shipping. (Cheques payable to Receiver General of Canada. Order from: Marketing and Publishing, National Library of Canada, 395 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON K1A ON4, Tel: (613) 995-7969; Fax: (613) 991-9871.

Whyte Museum. Pat Askren Changes, September 21, 1993-January 16,1994.

Art Gallery of York University. Vera Frenkel, September 29-October 31, 1993. Catalogue available.